MINUTES FOR NAPRA BOARD OF DIRECTORS OCT 17TH

I. Meeting was called to order by John KA7TTY, retireing Executive VP, at about 7:15 PM. Everyone in attendance knew each other, so introductions were skipped.

II. Board Officer Selection

- President - Ken Koster N7IPB

- Technical VP - Scott Cronk N7FSP

- Executive VP - Dennis Goodwin KB7DZ

- Secretary - John MacDuff KA7TTY

- Treasurer - Peter Dahl WA7FUS

- Member at Large - Larry Babcock WB7USL

- Member at Large - Terry Conboy N6RY

III. Reports (Ken took over the meeting at this time.)

- Tech VP - (by KD7NM) SEAW Status - Node is up and running. The Paccom TNC has been replaced with an MFJ unit, and the Octopus board has been replaced with a diode matrix. The trip Saturday found the backbone TNC off frequency.
The 9600 baud modems are in work and will be tested soon. These are 2 TexNet improved K9NG modems kits.

- Secretary - Steve was not in attendance.

- Executive VP - (by KA7TTY) Program set for November in Tacoma (Ken WA2JQW on satellite communication and packet). Scott will run the Ragchew tomorrow night.
As new secretary, John was directed to obtain a file box to keep all NAPRA correspondence, etc., in order.

- Treasurer - Balance is $1003.38

- Newsletter - Understand Steve N8GNJ will continue as Editor. Ken N7IPB and Peter WA78FUS will help with publishing.

IV. Old Business

- 440 Repeater - Don, N7NKJ, has the package and will be giving it to Bob, KD7NM, for tuning. The package includes a Motorola Micor 440 moble radio and a TNC (for providing ID). The installation will include a spare transeiver which will be kept at the site. A committee consisting of Larry, WB7USL, Don, N7NKJ, Bob, KD7NM, and Ken, N7IPB, was formed to complete the project.
Scott, N7FSP, questioned the usefullness of the 440 repeater. He would rather see a 440 link between SEA and SEAW, and the 220 backbone north from SEA bumped up 10 KHz, and the backbone south of SEAW bumped down 10KHz.

Ken, N7IPB, and others indicated that access would be limited to 6 to 8 nodes which had excellent links (60dB fade margin or better) with fixed routing in their tables. It would not be a user accessed repeater and would be watched to keep individuals from tying it up. Also in the future baud rate would be increased to 9600. It was concluded that the project would be continued as planned.

- Incorp Constitution Changes - Dennis, KB7DZ, had given a mark-up to Steve, N8GNJ. Steve will search for it. Dennis will follow up and generate a new mark-up if necessary. Goal is to get the proposal into the next issue of Zero Retries!

- Network Meeting -will not be held on Oct 27th. It will be rescheduled to the 4th Saturday in March (Mar 23rd) or 3rd Saturday (Mar 16th). Motion was presented by Dennis and seconded by Scott. Larry, WB7USL, will check on reserving the Boeing Kent Rec. Center on those dates.

IV. New Business

- Repeater Directory Update - Scott, N7FSP, suggested that we make an effort to provide the ARRL with current correct data on mailboxes, nodes and frequencies here in Western Washington. The board agreed. Scott will compile the data for this purpose and also to satisfy the request from the Saturday general meeting to be provided to the Packet community.

- WWARA/NAPRA Packet Coordinating Committee - This committee consists of Dennis, KB7DZ, and Ken, N7IPB, from NAPRA and Bob, WA7NAN, and Herman, K7PAG, from WWARA. So far they have discussed history and problems NAPRA has experienced, and special problems that Packet radio has that are different from repeater coordination, i.e. the network. There was discussion concerning a desire/need to expand beyond the original 10 frequencies. They will look at 2M first and consider what is going on in Oregon, E. Washington, Canada, the DX Cluster Nodes, and others. Any suggestions need to be sent to WWARA in writing. There is not a schedule for their next meeting, however, the next WWARA meeting is scheduled for the first Saturday in December (Dec 1st).

- Program for December - will probably be Len, W7MCU, on his 10 GHz packet experiments.

- Fiber Optic link to Montana - Russ, N7HGE, and others from the BEARS, have been discussing such a link with Burlington Northern people for a tie between the Evergreen Intertie (Voice system) and a repeater system in Boseman, MT. It has been suggested that since there are 40 some channels available on this fiber, that there might be a place for a packet link too. We need to come up with suggestions and questions on how we would interface and use such a link. Scott, N7FSP, has connections with Steve, N7GXP, of the Packet Radio of Montana (PROM) group in the area, and feels they would also jump at such a possibility. Scott as Tech VP will form a committee to look into this.

- Terry, N6RY, indicated that there was a possibility that in cooperation with a cellular telephone system, we could have access to some of their 60 cell sites in the Puget Sound area, with a possibility of using their lines from sites to their hub in the Harbor Island area. We need to think about how we could use this kind of facility with the idea of making a proposal to them stating what we

would like to do. Their lines can handle standard T1 system 4 wire E & M (Ear and Mouth) or 19.2 Kbps synchronus data (asynchronus is also possible). One possibility would be a links from Olympia and Mt. Constitution to the Hub with a Switch and radio link there to the 440 repeater.

- Tech Committee - We need to encourage our members to join this and other committees. We need to develop a broad base of skills available in the NAPRA organization. Working on these committees should not be limited to BOD!

- SEA and SEAW sites need to be updated with NAPRA owned equipment and the configurations well documented. SEA needs to be worked on first along with addition of the 440 equipment. It was agreed that this was long overdue. This also needs to include the removal of the 220 equipment. Should we be considering changing SEA into a low level user site?

Meeting was adjourned at 10:07 PM.